

**CINCINNATI BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Board of Health Meeting**  
**January 25, 2011**

Dr. Wael Safi, Chairman, called the January 25, 2011 Meeting of the Cincinnati Board of Health to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:** Dr. Mark Dato, Dr. Jeff Lange, Dr. Wael Safi, Dr. Brad Wenstrup and Dr. Stephen Wilson

**Board Member Apologies:** Dr. Donna Shambley-Ebron and Dr. Richard Schwen

**Senior Staff Members Present:** Dr. Noble Maseru, Dr. Larry Holditch, Dr. Camille Jones (via conference phone), Mr. Robert Schlantz, Ms. Joyce Tate, Dr. Marilyn Crumpton and Ms. Kim Toole

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF TWO  
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH FAMILY**

Ms. Donna Christos, Clerk to the Board of Health

Mr. David Crowley, Member, Board of Health

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF MR. DAVID CROWLEY**

Dr. Safi, on behalf of the Board, extended condolences to the Crowley family. A resolution was read that highlighted Mr. Crowley's contribution to the Cincinnati community, and his compassion for environmental justice for all citizens of Cincinnati. Mrs. Crowley thanked the Board for this honor and stated that Mr. Crowley, even just three weeks before his death, had expressed his concern about the impact that the budget cuts would have on the Health Department.

**RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES**

There are 13 employees that have retired from the Health Department. The employees that were present to accept their resolutions and plaques are: Ann Hellebush, Janice McCormick, Eleanor Salter, Douglas Springs and Dr. Steven Zaret. Dr. Safi commented that it was very warming to see that these employees were loyal to the Health Department for 25 and 30 years.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Bob Schlantz introduced Mr. Geoff Guillory, Project Manager from OCHIN, which is the vendor that will be working with CHD on the electronic medical records installation. OCHIN is based in Portland, Oregon. Mr. Guillory stated that the software that will be

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installed is EPIC for the physicians. They are a 501(3)(c) organization with a goal of providing the best technology to those serving the medically underserved population(s). There is a projected “go live” date of August 9. Dr. Wilson agreed that EPIC is one of the best software packages for physicians on the market. Mr. Guillory responded to several questions from the Board.

Mr. Schlantz recapped the changes that have taken place during the budget process since the last board meeting (attachment #2). An additional one million dollar reduction was added to CHD’s budget. There are potentially 42 general fund positions and approximately 23 positions in other funds that will be lost with this additional million dollar reduction. Staff continues to try to work out a plan to mitigate these cuts.

Dr. Safi inquired about the process that CHD is working on in response to these budget cuts. Mr. Schlantz stated that CHD is reaching out to hospitals and other organizations to discuss the impact that these cuts would have upon their organization(s). Staff is also having dialogue with other city entities about wage/benefit concessions. Dr. Crumpton stated that Mr. Jim Conway of Anthem has been very successful in establishing non profits in the past, and has written a 14 page proposal to establish a nonprofit for School Health. This will allow for the solicitation of private funding to support restoration of the school health nurses. Hopefully, city council will take note of this effort and be willing to supplement the gap in funding.

Mr. Schlantz stated that also a request has been made to city council to extend the deadline to terminate the Lab services. Dr. Maseru also mentioned his efforts to get approval for Medicaid maximization from the state office of Job and Family Services. The proposal was submitted to the governor and approved by him for submittal to the federal government’s Medicaid administrative office in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Merz stated that CHD has sustained a 25% budget reduction over a four year period. The budget reduction this year alone is 25%. These are significant cuts that make it difficult to maintain the level of service that is needed to serve the citizens of Cincinnati effectively. Dr. Maseru stated that he and his staff are trying to work systemically to devise a way to maintain services, so that CHD is not vulnerable to these types of budget cuts in the future. These decisions appear to be an aggressive action to decimate the Health Department.

Dr. Safi stated that the budget situation is not going away and especially now that the Board understands that the Health Department is not a high priority for the city. Dr. Safi applauds Dr. Maseru and staff’s creative efforts in trying to meet the challenge of the consistent reduction in CHD’s budget.

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**  
**(Attachment No. 3)**

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

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At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the personnel actions on the list identified as Attachment No. 3 dated January 19, 2011.”

Discussion: Dr. Maseru read the list of “new hires” for the Health Department.

Ms. Toole stated that Ms. Loma Gray who has been hired as a Public Health Nurse 2 for the WIC Program. She will be working as a certified lactation nurse consultant and has worked many years with CHD as a consultant. She has extensive experience in this area.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

**CONTRACTS & GRANTS**

- A. Cincy Smiles – Contract  
\$123,000 – 1/1/2011-12/31/2013 (Attachment No. 4)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Wilson seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approve the agreement with the Cincy Smiles Foundation, to provide onsite daily coordination of the Occlusal Sealant Program and the services of two dental hygienists to apply sealants to no less than 4,000 children.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

- B. Cincy Smiles – Contract  
\$34,000 – 1/1/2011-12/31/2013 (Attachment No. 5)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the agreement with the Cincy Smiles Foundation, to provide a dentist to the Occlusal Sealant Program. The dentist will examine no less than 4,000 children. He will diagnose existing dental disease and develop treatment plans for the diagnosed children.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

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C. Cincy Smiles Foundation – Contract (Attachment No. 6)

Fee for Service - 1/1/2011-12/31/2013 Professional Provider Agreement

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the agreement with the Cincy Smiles Foundation, to provide screening of dental charts, data entry of all first-time encounters, second-year retention checks, and the production of reports concerning services provided, disease experience, retention rates, and billing.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

D. Cardinal Health – Contract (includes Seneca Medical Supply)  
\$205,000 – 1/1/2011-6/30/2011 (Attachment No. 7)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the amendment to this agreement to allow the Board of Health to continue to purchase medical and laboratory supplies through the Central Pharmacy Supply for distribution to the Cincinnati health Department clinics.

E. Seneca Medical Supply – Contract  
\$205,000 – 1/1/2011-6/30/2011 (Attachment No. 8)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the amendment to this agreement to allow the Board of Health to continue to purchase medical and laboratory supplies through the Central Pharmacy Supply for distribution to the Cincinnati Health Department clinics.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

F. Complete Wellness & Associates, LLC – Contract  
\$10,000 – 1/1/2011-12/31/2011 (Attachment No. 9)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

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At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the contract with Complete Wellness and Associates LLC as a project coordinator. The services vary from serving on the Creating Healthy Communities Coalition, plan, coordinate and evaluate bimonthly meetings of faith-based organization networks, and work as a facilitator.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

- G. Greater Cincinnati Dental Laboratories, Inc. – Contract  
\$675,000 – 1/1/2011-12/31/2011 (Attachment No. 10)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the contract with the Greater Cincinnati Dental Laboratories, Inc. This contract will allow the Cincinnati Health Department to purchase dental lab services for all department dental clinics.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

- H. Terrence S. Poole, DDS – Contract  
\$32,000 – 2/1/2011-12/31/2012 (Attachment No. 11)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the contract with Terrence S. Poole, DDS. This agreement is for the services of a dental consultant to perform administration of Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Systems for the Cincinnati Health Department’s Dental Program.

Discussion: Dr. Maseru introduced Dr. Poole to the Board and Dr. Poole shared the sentiments he felt being back in the Board room. It brought back memories to when he used to serve on the Board of Health. Dr. Poole emphasized the need for dental services in the city. He is on staff at Children’s Hospital and is willing to offer his services to the Health Department.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

- I. Ansell Healthcare Products – Contract

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\$25,000 – 1/1/2011-12/31/2011 (Attachment No. 12)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the amendment (extend for one year) to this contract with Ansell Healthcare Products, Inc. This contract is to allow the Pharmacy Central Supply Department of the Board of Health to continue to purchase medical supplies for distribution to our clinic pharmacies.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

- J. Capital Wholesale Drug – Contract  
\$25,000 – 1/1/2011-6/3/2011 (Attachment No. 13)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the amendment (extension) to this contract with Capital Wholesale Drug. This contract is to allow the Pharmacy Central Supply Department of the Board of Health to continue to purchase medical supplies for distribution to our clinic pharmacies.

Discussion: Major pharmaceutical supplier.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved.

- K. Amerisource Bergen – Contract  
\$25,000 – 1/1/2011-6/30/2011 (Attachment No. 14)

Dr. Safi proposed the motion, and Dr. Lange seconded the motion:

At the request of the Health Commissioner,

“That the Board of Health approves the amendment (extension) to this contract with Amerisource Bergen. This contract is to allow the Pharmacy Central Supply Department of the Board of Health to continue to purchase medical supplies for distribution to our clinic pharmacies.

Vote/Action: Passed unanimously and approved

**HEALTH COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS/  
BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

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**-Dr. Jones** stated that she is proud to announce that the Lead Program received a competitive renewal award for the lead hazard removal grant in the amount of 4.5 million dollars. They are one of the few applicants to receive the maximum award amount. A small portion of this award will be dedicated to “healthy homes” which includes other home health hazards. Dr. Maseru stated that the HUD national lead office will be coming to Cincinnati for a press conference to present the awarded amount.

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**-Dr. Holditch** gave an update on the syphilis outbreak. He stated that this year there have been 257 cases which is a 46% increase over last year which is a trend downward compared to the of 135% increase the previous year. The majority of the cases are found in the secondary stage. It’s mainly a heterosexual disease in Cincinnati and it still affects mostly the African American population. Dr. Holditch stated that he is encouraged by the numbers which are showing a trend downwards. This is a problem also in Columbus, but more prevalent in the gay population. The trend nationally has been up for the past 10 years. Dr. Englander added that this is where the need for public health comes into play, because the private physicians do not really take note of these trends until public health brings it to the forefront.

Dr. Holditch also stated that he will have two pediatrician vacancies (Drs. Edwards & Grant) very soon. One physician has left as of this Friday and the other will be leaving sometime during the spring/summer. Dr. Holditch will be working to fill those positions.

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**-Dr. Alam** highlighted the 4.5 million lead grant and congratulated the staff on receiving this grant. Dr. Alam be bringing an updated draft before the Board of Health Regulation 00053 as it relates to healthy homes. Ms. LiAnne Howard made a presentation on health impact assessment regarding the I-75 project.

**-Ms. Toole** stated that the Home Health Division has “gone live” with electronic health records, and they actually have some super users. This month is Cervical Cancer Prevention Month. Ms. Toole and Dr. Crumpton have been working with Dr. Jessica Kahn of Children’s Hospital with the Cervical Cancer Prevention Coalition. There is an HPV vaccine available to and recommended for males and females ages 9 – 26. Children typically get the vaccine at their 11 and 12 year old well child visit.

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**-Ms. Allison Davidson** announced that her office is now located at the Health Department and she’s happy to be here.

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**Mr. Merz** stated that due to unfortunate passing of Ms. Donna Christos, who was the clerk to this board, he wanted to thank Ms. Vicky Minnich and Ms. Brenda Frye for stepping in and picking up the torch to make the meeting happen.

CHD is about to reach an important milestone on Twitter. The Twitter account is approaching 1,000 followers. Save the date for the Neighborhood Summit - April 2 (Saturday). Mr. Merz and staff are also working on an Infant Vitality website.

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**Dr. Maseru** shared the stats for infant vitality in Cincinnati. Dr. Elizabeth Kelly and CHD nurses are instrumental in the positive contribution to infant vitality.

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**Dr. Safi** commended staff for the work well done during these trying times, but would like to set a goal next year for regional health care for those that we serve. CHD should be at the forefront of these discussions on how the health department is taking care of Cincinnati residents.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 22, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Delores L. Bowen Auditorium, 3101 Burnet Avenue.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes Approved by:

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Brenda Frye, Clerk to the Board  
Cincinnati Board of Health

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Wael Safi, Pharm.D.  
Chairman, Board of Health